

**MEDIA RELEASE – 1 OCTOBER 2015**



**HANNAH CATCHPOLE APPOINTED CEO OF THE OTAGO RACING CLUB**

In light of Andre Klein's imminent departure to the United Kingdom on November 6, 2015 to take up the management of the Warwick Racecourse the club has undertaken and completed the appointment process for a successor into the CEO role.

The club is pleased to announce the appointment of Hannah Catchpole to the position. Hannah who is currently the General Manager of Sydney University Football Club and NRC team Sydney Stars has a strong background in professional sport management and its operations and logistics. During her time at the RaboDirect Melbourne Rebels she became the first female to hold a team management position in Super Rugby.

Hannah who has a Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Hospitality) degree from La Trobe University in Melbourne, previously lived in Dunedin where she worked at The Highlanders and Otago Rugby Football Club in a variety of roles.

Hannah will commence in the position on November 11, 2015.

**Dean Lawrence, Club President Said:**

The Otago Racing Club is very pleased to have Hannah join and lead the team at Wingatui. With a strong background in professional sport management, she displayed the quality, personal attributes and leadership skills that the club was seeking in a CEO to lead the Otago Racing Club into an exciting phase of its racing and facilities operations development. Whilst she does not have direct exposure to the thoroughbred racing industry we are blessed at Wingatui to have exceptional teachers of the industry, and coupled with support of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) Hannah will relish the opportunity to quickly develop her racing knowledge.

**Hannah Catchpole Said:**

When I previously lived in Dunedin I was fortunate enough to witness on multiple occasions what great race events the team at Wingatui stage. I am delighted to be given the chance by the Otago Racing Club Committee to move back to Dunedin to take up such an exciting role as the CEO.

To be given the opportunity to work with leaders in the racing industry, together with the support of the Otago Racing Club Committee and NZTR I am sure I will be able to develop a sound racing knowledge quickly.

The club is going through a terrific period of growth both in its events and its track facilities and I look forward to being part of the racing community and continuing to build on the wonderful events the outgoing CEO has built over his tenure at the Otago Racing Club.

**For more information:**

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